



09/025896

Patent Application of

Billie J. Longstreth

406 Rising Hill Drive, Fairborn, Ohio

Citizen of the United States of America

SPECIFICATIONS

TITLE OF INVENTION

Cabbage Cutter

FIELD OF INVENTION

This invention relates to kitchen utensils, and particularly, to an improved non-powered, hand operated device used specifically for cutting and chopping cabbage.

PRIOR ART

U.S Pat. No. 5,103,563, April 14, 1992, Carl W. Johnson. This is a device used for a wide variety of cutting and chopping procedures and the art shows a plurality of teeth on a bottom rim of a hollow cylindrical

body. Each of the teeth includes an apex that extends parallel to the longitudinal centerline of the device and two surfaces intersecting each other at the apex.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,002,843, June 11, 1991, Loretta Secondiak. This is a press type mold used in making pyrohies whereby the pyrohy is first cut and then sealed in one operation.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,858,317, August 22, 1989, George E.Seib. This is a device for cutting a preselected sized ostomy or stoma flange to be used to surgically install a colostomy in an opening in the wall of the abdomen of a human being through which body waste is discharged directly from the colon instead of passing out through the rectum and anus.

U.S. Pat. 4,843,716, July 4, 1989, Robert S. Lutzker. This is a tool for cutting food into various ornamental shapes and threading the cut food onto a toothpick or other skewer to make canapes, hors d'oeuvres and the like.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,456,346, July 22, 1969, John M. Snyder. This is a cutting device used to repair laid carpet by cutting out damaged portions of the carpet so it can be replaced.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,004,340, October 17, 1961, Bernice L. Collins. This is a kitchen utensil that is designed to cut,

slice, chop, mix and blend all types of food including vegetables, meatloaf, cakes, and pastries, and the device has a removable hand grip with an internal sleeve insertable into the cylindrical body and an internal bevel at its lower end.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,595,542, August 10, 1926, Stanton S. Bundy. This is a device for expeditiously, humanely and effectively dehorning calves, lambs or goat kids.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,525,514, February 10, 1925, Fred P. Rothje. This is a design for an ice-cream dispenser.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,297,900, March 18, 1919, Sarah S. Patton. This is a device for cutting out biscuits and doughnuts, and also provides means for sticking or forking biscuits as they are cut.

U.S. Pat. No. 1,100,489, June 16, 1914, Arthur L. Palmer. This is a design for a device used to cut out biscuits, cakes, doughnuts, etc., and is also designed to sift flour.

U.S. Pat. No. 893,425, July 14, 1908, Junius F. Bell. This is a device designed for chopping potatoes and is used in the operation of preparing them to be cooked.

Foreign Pat No. 592,282, France, Lucien-Georges Dubourg.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Cabbage is a popular vegetable and, therefore, is often served on dinner tables in one form or another, alone or used in combination with other vegetables, or ingredients, in a variety of recipes. Anybody experienced in cutting and chopping vegetables knows that cabbage, because of its short, thick stalk, and large head formed by tightly overlapping leaves, is the most difficult vegetable to cut up, therefore, the strength and durability of the device used to cut or chop it is very important. Cooks are always looking for that certain device that might make this chore easier. And I'm sure they have wasted money, as I have, by purchasing devices that they think will work better only to be disappointed time and again. In order to cut up cabbage cooks use a variety of tools such as knives, powered devices such as grinders, blenders, and food processors. The problem is that the devices sold on the market today are designed, and intended, to be used to cut, chop, mix, and blend a variety of vegetables and food thus limiting their efficiency to cut the most difficult vegetable--cabbage. Fact is, cabbage is unlike any other vegetable or food. Regarding difficulty in chopping and cutting, cabbage places in a category by itself.

Vegetable cutters and choppers sold on the market today have other disadvantages too. Because cabbage is more difficult to chop or cut, the powered devices will jam and may have to be cleaned out several times during the process of cutting or chopping up one head of cabbage. They are slow, tedious, and most likely require some assembling before each use. Also, they may be expensive and difficult to clean. The non-powered, hand-operated devices that are designed with open tops, and those designed with open top rims with removable hand grips, lack the sturdiness and durability to withstand the friction and force of the heavier chopping and cutting motion that is required for cutting cabbage and, therefore, may bend and become ineffective.

This invention was developed from a homemade device I have used for several years to cut and chop my own cabbage. I cut off the open rim of an empty tin vegetable can thus turning the rim into a sharp cutting means that very effectively cuts cabbage to any size desired. I have found that this homemade device works better than any of the commercially sold devices. Although this homemade device works better for me to cut my cabbage than any device sold on the market, it too has a disadvantage. The can is constructed of tin and, therefore, is flimsy, lacking the

sturdiness, strength, and durability to withstand repeated use, so I must cut off the rim of an empty vegetable can for each head of cabbage I cut up. Although this cabbage cutter invention was developed from this idea and procedure, and is similar in design, it is constructed of sturdier and much more durable material, a hard, strong metal with high tensile strength, preferably stainless steel. Therefore, this cabbage cutter device can easily cut through the thick stalks and tightly overlapping leaves and cut the cabbage to the desired size. There is definitely a need for a device that has been designed and developed for the specific purpose to cut cabbage, a device that is strong and durable, inexpensive to manufacture, therefore, making it inexpensive to purchase. One that is easy to use, requires no assembling, and easy to clean. This cabbage cutter will satisfy all these needs.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

The object of this invention is to provide a strong and durable device designed and manufactured specifically to cut and chop cabbage. To provide a device that is non-powered, hand operated, easy to use--no complicated movable parts that may malfunction during use, inexpensive to purchase, easy to clean, and dishwasher safe. To provide a device

that requires no preparation before use, that is, no assembling is required. Just remove the protective cover from the cutting means and its ready to use.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

This cabbage cutter comprising a hollow, metal, cylindrical shaped body measuring two and three-fourths inches in diameter and four inches in length having a closed top and an open bottom, the wall and top having imperforate smooth interior and exterior surfaces, and the open bottom rim has been filed or rubbed down to a smooth, thin, sharp cutting edge that can be resharpened if it should become dulled from extensive use. The cylindrical shaped body and closed top of the device is constructed of a hard, strong metal with high tensile strength, preferably stainless steel, which makes the device superior in strength and durability, and resistant to corrosion and rusting. The closed top of the cylindrical shaped body is covered with a permanently affixed cap, preferably of suitable molded plastic, that extends three-fourths of an inch over onto the cylindrical wall of the device that serves as a hand grip so that the user will be able to maintain a good grip on the device to use it efficiently and effectively at all times. The cap also provides a cushion and support for the hand of

the user. The device has a removable protective cover, contiguous with the cutting and chopping portion of the cylindrical shaped body, that fits over the cutting or chopping means to serve as a protective shield from injury, and protects it from becoming damaged, when not in use or stored.

This cabbage cutter device, designed and constructed for superior strength and durability, can easily, efficiently, and effectively cut through the thick stalks and tightly overlapping leaves of the cabbage, cutting it to the desired size.

This device is a simple design, one piece with a protective cover for the cutting means. It is inexpensive to manufacture, therefore, it is inexpensive to purchase. It is easy to clean, dishwasher safe, and takes only a small space to store when not in use.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a hollow cylindrical shaped body having a closed top and an open bottom rim with a cutting means. This hollow cylindrical shaped body is constructed of a hard, strong metal with high tensile strength, preferably stainless steel, and the wall and top having imperforate smooth interior and exterior surfaces.

This hollow cylindrical shaped body measures two and three-forths inches in diameter and four inches in length. This hollow cylindrical body represents the main portion of the cabbage cutter device.

FIG. 2 is a view of the cap, preferably a suitable molded plastic, that is permanently affixed to the closed top of the hollow cylindrical shaped body portion and extends three-forths of an inch over onto the cylindrical wall of the device to serve as a hand grip and support to the user's hand.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the protective cover, contiguous with the cutting portion of the cylindrical shaped body of the device, that fits over the said circular cutting and chopping means to serve as a protective shield from injury, and protects it from becoming damaged when not in use or stored.

FIG. 4 is a view of the embodiment of the cabbage cutter invention as it looks when not in use or stored. The device comprises a hollow cylindrical shaped body 1, with a closed top, 2 and an open bottom rim with a cutting means 3 measuring two and three-forths inches in diameter and four inches in length, having a permanently affixed cap (hand grip) 4 extending three-forths of an inch over onto the

cylindrical wall, and having a protective cover 5 contiguous with the cutting and chopping means 3 shown in place on the device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

This invention is a device designed specifically to cut cabbage comprising a hollow, metal, cylindrical shaped body 1 with a closed top 2 and an open bottom rim that has been filed or rubbed down to a smooth, thin, sharp, circular cutting means 3 that can be resharpened if it should become dulled from extensive use. The cylindrical shaped body 1 of the device measures two and three-fourths inches in diameter and four inches in length, and is constructed of a hard, strong metal with high tensile strength, preferably stainless steel, which makes the device superior in strength and durability, and resistant to corrosion and rusting, and the cylindrical shaped wall 1 and closed top 2 have imperforate smooth interior and exterior surfaces. The closed top 2 of the cylindrical shaped body 1 is covered with a permanently affixed cap 4, preferably suitable molded plastic, that extends three-fourths of an inch over onto the cylindrical shaped wall 1 of the device that serves as a hand grip so that the user will be able to maintain a

good grip on the device to use it efficiently and effectively at all times. The permanently affixed cap (hand grip) 4 also provides cushion and support for the hand of the user. The device has a removable protective cover 5, contiguous with the cutting and chopping portion 3 of the cylindrical shaped body 1, that fits over the cutting and chopping means 3 that serves as a protective shield from injury, and protects it from becoming damaged when the device is not in use or stored.

Although this device is of a simple design, one piece-- a hollow cylindrical shaped body 1 having a closed top 2 with a permanently affixed cap (hand grip) 4, and a protective cover 5 for the cutting means 3, it is designed and constructed for superior strength and durability and can easily, efficiently, and effectively cut through the thick stalks and tightly overlapping leaves of the cabbage. This device is inexpensive to purchase, easy to clean and dishwasher safe, requires no assembling, has no complicated movable parts that may malfunction during use.

The cabbage cutter device works best when cabbage head is cut in chunks and placed in a large bowl or container. Then the device is used by simply grasping the top (hand grip) in the palm of the user's hand and bringing the

circular cutting and chopping means down repeatedly (an up and down motion) onto the cabbage and cutting it to desired size.

While there has been shown and described a preferred embodiment of the cabbage cutter, it is understood that changes in structure, material, sizes and shapes can be made without departing from the invention. The invention is defined in the following claim.